

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 21-2267V

UNPUBLISHED

HOLLY O'DEA, as the Personal  
Representative of ESTATE OF  
DOLORES WILLIAMS,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: October 4, 2022

Special Processing Unit (SPU);  
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;  
Table Injury; Influenza (Flu) Vaccine;  
Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS)

*Leah VaSahnja Durant, Law Offices of Leah V. Durant, PLLC, Washington, DC, for  
Petitioner.*

*James Vincent Lopez, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.*

### **RULING ON ENTITLEMENT**<sup>1</sup>

On December 7, 2021, Holly O'Dea, as personal representative of the Estate of Dolores Williams, filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*<sup>2</sup> (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleges that Ms. Williams suffered from Guillain-Barre Syndrome ("GBS") as a result of an influenza vaccine she received on October 16, 2020. Petition at 1. Petitioner further alleges that Ms. Williams died as a result of her vaccine injury. Petition at ¶7. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Ruling will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

On October 3, 2022, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent's Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, Respondent states that "Petitioner has satisfied the criteria set forth in the Table and the Qualifications and Aids to Interpretation ("QAI"). *Id.* at 3-4. Respondent further agrees that "the records also show that this case was timely filed, that Ms. Williams received her vaccination in the United States, that her death from GBS satisfies the statutory severity requirement, and there is also no evidence of a factor unrelated that is a more likely cause of her injuries and death. *Id.* at 4.

**In view of Respondent's position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.**

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Brian H. Corcoran**

Brian H. Corcoran  
Chief Special Master